UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/26279
9 August 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 9 AUGUST 1993 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit, enclosed herewith, my Statement on the agenda item "Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) missions in Kosovo, Sandzak and Vojvodina in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)" had there been a debate on this issue in the Security Council on 9 August 1993.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

I would like to bring to the attention of the Security Council the following facts which are relevant in consideration of the issue of the CSCE Missions of Long Duration in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. We are presenting those facts although we consider this to be an internal affair of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as well as the question of Yugoslavia's relation with the CSCE. That even more so since it does not concern the maintenance of international peace and security and as such does not fall within the competencies of the Security Council.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia did not either suspend the mandate or refuse to allow the activities of the CSCE Missions of Long Duration. As it is well known, after eight months of activities in the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the Missions' mandate expired. Although the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expressed its readiness to cooperate and negotiate a new mandate, so far the CSCE failed to consider that offer. In that connection, Yugoslavia expects to be accorded the same treatment as other participating States in the CSCE, since equality is the principle of the CSCE for which there can be no exemptions.

It is not the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that refused to allow continued functioning of the CSCE Missions of Long Duration in its territory. It was in fact the Committee of Senior Officials that rejected cooperation that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia offered on a number of occasions. At a time of the signing of the Protocol on the extension of the mandate of the CSCE missions in April 1993, the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia made it quite clear that it wanted to continue normal cooperation with the CSCE. My Government also stated that it was going to consider the question of the continuation of the Missions of Long Duration in the light of the decision of the Committee of the Senior Officials. Regrettably, at its meeting in Prague on 29 and 30 June 1993, the Committee did not consider the question of normalization of relations and cooperation with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Therefore, to blame the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for the lack of willingness to cooperate with the CSCE, to say the least, is unfounded and contrary to the actual state of affairs.

Despite the fact that by the decision of 8 July 1992, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was suspended from the work of the CSCE meetings, it has continued to cooperate with the CSCE. It has done its utmost to comply with the CSCE principles and standards and to implement the decisions concerning Yugoslavia including the one establishing the CSCE Missions of Long Duration.

Our desire and readiness to cooperate have not only been repeatedly stated but have also been proven in practice. The Missions of Long Duration and almost 70 other missions, including over 800 journalists, visited Kosovo and Metohija alone in the past seven months.

As far as the Missions of Long Duration are concerned, the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is fully aware of the positive results of the Missions' presence in Yugoslavia as it has been repeatedly conveyed to the Chief of the Missions at the time. Consequently, the Government of the Federal

Republic of Yugoslavia is ready to consider their renewed presence in the future, but it is up to the CSCE to decide whether and if so, when it will accept our offer for the resumption of normal cooperation. My Government is indeed prepared to live up to the norms and principles that Yugoslavia has accepted as a CSCE participating State but in order to do that, we have to be allowed to actually participate in the activities of the CSCE.

As for the allegations that the situation in Kosovo and Metohija, Raska and Vojvodina is aggravating, the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia would like to assure the Security Council that its authorities are in full control of the situation and that there is no threat to international peace and security. Certainly, there is no interest or motive for the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to aggravate the situation in its own territory.

In conclusion, I would like to repeat once again the readiness of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to fully cooperate with the CSCE, to enter into substantial dialogue on all questions, including those on the renewal of the mandate of the Missions of Long Duration on the basis of equality and with a view to normalizing the relations with the CSCE.